

Charles A. Dayton, and also by the specimens in the Children's Museum, in which building the meetings are held.—FRANK H. AMES, *Secretary*.

ALBERT G. WETHERBY.¹

Professor Albert G. Wetherby was born in Pittsburg, Pa., in 1833. While yet a boy his parents removed to the vicinity of Cleveland. Here he obtained a rudimentary education, and afterwards went to college. After his graduation his time for several years was spent in farming in the summer and teaching a country school in winter. In 1861 he removed to Cincinnati, where he was appointed principal of the Woodburn public school. He filled this position with great acceptability during nine years; but his friends, recognizing his broad scholarship and his special fitness to teach the natural sciences, urged his appointment to a professorship in the Cincinnati University, and in 1870 he was elected to the chair of natural history. But as the University was new, and spending its money in new buildings and equipment, the chairs of geology and botany were added to his duties. Professor Wetherby was young, full of energy and enthusiasm, and during these six years of his university work accomplished more than mortal man should have attempted. But even if he had nerves of steel, he saw that he would soon break down under this overwork, and so he resigned to accept a more lucrative position in the business world.

Professor Wetherby was a born teacher, and some of his friends thought he made the mistake of his life in resigning his chair in the University to accept a business position. But the trustees had placed upon him burdens too heavy for one man to bear, and he was too conscientious a teacher to slight his work.

His enthusiasm for his favorite studies was contagious. No one could be in his society long without feeling the wonderful magnetic power of this man. On one of his excursions with his class in geology he penetrated the wild mountain region of South Carolina. Little did he then think that this region would be his future home; that he would spend his last years among these strange people, the

¹ The portrait is reproduced from the last photograph which he had taken and represents Prof. Wetherby at about fifty years of age.—EDITORS.

followers of Cromwell, who sought to hide from the wrath of Charles II. in these mountain fastnesses.

He resigned his position in the Cincinnati University to become the general manager of the American and European Investment Company, which position he held for two years.

In 1886 he was made manager of a large tract of timber and mineral lands belonging to the Roan Mt. Steel and Iron Co. This appointment compelled him to remove with his family to North Carolina. Here his home was located in one of the most beautiful valleys in the world, about 3000 feet above the sea level and surrounded with towering mountains. To one who was such a lover of nature this was an ideal place. Here surrounded by his interesting family he varied his other duties, which were many, by communion with nature.

His hospitality was unbounded, and his home was always open to friend or stranger and especially to any strolling naturalist, who was always sure of a hearty welcome from the professor and his estimable wife.

Professor Wetherby, while connected with the Cincinnati University, organized five expeditions for field work and study, in all of which the writer had the pleasure of being one of the party. As an organizer of a camping party he had no superior. He was a very companionable man, could tell a story, sing a song or play on his violin to drive away the blues, when the weather was unpropitious, and could cook a meal under the most unfavorable circumstances that would satisfy the most fastidious epicure.

The naturalist's best hunting grounds are generally far from the lines of civilization. No mountain roads, however impassable, or swollen streams, could turn him from his course. Difficulties which would appall ordinary men only seemed to stimulate his indomitable will power, which always carried him safely through.

Among his numerous friends in Cincinnati, perhaps none mourned his death more than those who shared with him the joys and hardships of camp life.

Professor Wetherby was taken sick Jan. 1st, with congestion of the lungs, at his home in Magnetic City, N. C. He seemed to slowly improve, when on Feb. 10 he was taken with sinking spells due to heart failure. He died Feb. 15, and was buried at Magnetic City, N. C., Feb. 18, 1902.

The following papers by Prof. Wetherby appeared in the Journal of Cincinnati Natural History Society, Vols. II to VI, and Vols. XVI and XVII: Descriptions of new fossils from the Cincinnati group; also from the Subcarboniferous. Descriptions of new species of crinoids from the Kaskaskia Group; also from the Subcarboniferous. Remarks on the genus *Pterocerinus*. Some notes on American land shells. Trenton rocks at High Bridge, Kentucky. Remarks on the Trenton limestone of Kentucky, with descriptions of new fossils. Geographical distribution of some fresh-water mollusks of North America. Descriptions of Crinoids from the subcarboniferous of Pulaski county Kentucky. Descriptions of new fossils from Lower Silurian and Subcarboniferous of Ohio and Kentucky. Notes on Trenton fossils of Mercer Co., Ky. Descriptions of new fossils from the Lower Silurian and Subcarboniferous rocks of Kentucky. Directions for collecting and preparing land and fresh-water shells. Relation of mollusks to shells. Natural history notes from North Carolina.

Journal of Science, Vol. I. Description of Lepidopterous Larvæ.

The following articles were published in the NAUTILUS, Vols. VIII and IX: A few notes on *Helix appressa*. A few notes on *Helix tridentata*. New records of Reversed American Helices. Remarks on the Variation in Form of the Family Strepomatidæ, with descriptions of New Species; read before the Cincinnati Natural Historical Society, December 7, 1875.

Quarterly Journal of Conchology, No. 11, May, 1877. "Review of the Genus *Tulotoma*, with remarks on the geographical distribution of the North American Viviparidæ."

The above list of papers published by Professor Wetherby, though not complete, gives some idea of the versatility of his mind and his great capacity for work. His last years were spent in a careful study of the mosses and grasses of the Roan Mt. region, which work, had he lived to complete it, would have been a valuable contribution to the botany of North Carolina. He made a fine collection of the smaller mammals peculiar to the Roan Mt. region, which he presented to the Smithsonian Institution. His large and valuable collection of minerals he presented to the Cincinnati University. His collections of plants, of fossils, of land and fresh-water shells, are very valuable, as they contain many unique specimens and all the types of the species described by him.

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